

CENTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this Amendment and Response to Office Action pursual \$1.8, is being deposited this date with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Box NON FEE AMENDMENTS, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: June 5, 2002

JUN 1 2 2002

HERE BUTTEAL PROPERTY DIPARTILLING

-- PATENT --

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Brett D. Ritter, et al.

Docket No.:

31919.3993

Serial No.:

09/786,239

Confirmation No.:

8281

Filing Date:

May 17, 2001

Examiner:

Anthony D. Stashick

Title:

FOOTWEAR SOLE AND ARCH

STRAPPING SYSTEM

Art Unit:

3728

Proliminary AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Box NON-FEE AMENDMENTS Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231-0001

Honorable Commissioner:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 6, 2002, please accept this timely filed Amendment and Response to the restriction requirement entered pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §§ 121 and 372 for the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 7-13, without prejudice or disclaimer and subject to Applicants' right to timely file any divisional or other application directed to the subject matter thereof.

REMARKS

In his May 6, 2002 Office Action, the Examiner stated that the application contains inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive

31919.3993/1185119.1

Serial No. 09/786,239